

REMARKS

Applicant intends this response to be a complete response to the Examiner's **19 October 2004** Non-Final Office Action. Applicant has labeled the paragraphs in his response to correspond to the paragraph labeling in the Office Action for the convenience of the Examiner.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 7-10, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knijpstra U.S. Patent 5,558,581. Applicant traverses and respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments, if any, and the remarks presented herein.

Applicant has amended independent claims 7 and 17 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 18 and 20, rendering the obviousness rejection moot.

Claims 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knijpstra U.S. Patent 5,558,581 in view of Henique et al. U.S. Patent 5,582,518. Applicant traverses and respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments, if any, and the remarks presented herein.

Applicant has amended independent claim 11 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 18 and 20, rendering the obviousness rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 21 is allowed.

Having fully responded to the Examiner's Non-Final Office Action, Applicant respectfully urges that this application be passed onto allowance.

